News from the Wyoming Department of Health

Thursday, July 27, 2006

Governor Declares Breastfeeding Awareness Month

CHEYENNE –On Wednesday, Governor Dave Freudenthal proclaimed August as Wyoming Breastfeeding Awareness Month. The proclamation wording follows:

Whereas, the people of Wyoming are deserving of good health; and

Whereas, human milk optimally enhances infant growth, development and well-being by providing the best possible infant nutrition; enhances immune response to vaccines; protects against infection, allergies, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, and a variety of diseases into adulthood including Celiac and Crohn's disease, multiple sclerosis, diabetes, and obesity; enhances infant brain development; and promotes maternal infant bonding; and

Whereas, breastfeeding promotes healthier mothers by reducing the risk of obesity, cancer, diabetes, and osteoporosis; and

Whereas, breastfeeding benefits society through lower health care costs, a healthier workforce, stronger family bonds, less environmental waste; and

Whereas, breastfeeding is recognized as the preferred method of infant feeding through the first year of life and beyond by major medical organizations, including American Academy of Pediatrics, American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, American Academy of Family Physicians, American Dietetic Association, National WIC Association, UNICEF and World Health Organization; and

Whereas, August 1-7, 2006, is proclaimed World Breastfeeding Week by the World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action, the World Health Organization and UNICEF; and

Whereas, the number of breastfeeding women in the Wyoming community is increasing through the efforts of the Wyoming Department of Health and healthcare providers in the community.

For these significant reasons, I, Dave Freudenthal, Governor of the State of Wyoming, do hereby proclaim the month of August 2006 to be

WYOMING BREASTFEEDING AWARENESS MONTH

With special emphasis on breastfeeding promotion, I urge all citizens to join me in supporting breastfeeding as a high priority for healthier babies across Wyoming.

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